



September 13, 2015

(b) (6)

(b) (6),

Durango CO 81301

Re: Groundwater Well Sampling Results

Dear (b) (6),

This letter provides the results for the water sample(s) collected from your groundwater well on 8/23/2015 (Sample ID = GKMTW382_082315). The water was submitted to, and analyzed by a private certified laboratory for total metals. The analysis included metals that could be present in water from the Gold King Mine release.

None of these metals were present in your groundwater above a level of concern. A laboratory results summary table for your water sample is attached to this letter.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommends using the Water Quality Interpretation Tool created by Colorado State University in collaboration with the Colorado Water Institute. This tool has more information regarding the metals examined in your well, and can be found at the following website: <https://erams.com/wqtool/>.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in the collection process, and thank you for your patience while the sample was analyzed. If you have any further questions, please contact Deb McKean at (303) 579-4371.

Sincerely,

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8



September 15, 2015

(b) (6)

(b) (6), (b) (9)

Durango CO 81301

Re: Groundwater Well Sampling Results

Dear (b) (6),

This letter provides the results for the water sample(s) collected from your groundwater well on 8/23/2015 (Sample ID = GKMTW382_082315). The water was submitted to, and analyzed by a private certified laboratory for total metals. The analysis included metals that could be present in water from the Gold King Mine release.

The test results for your well water were compared to the National Drinking Water Standards, otherwise known as the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs). The results of the analysis are provided in the enclosed table. Though these standards do not apply to private domestic water wells such as yours, we have included the enclosed table so that you may compare the results with the Drinking Water Standards. **None of these metals were present in the water sample(s) collected from your property above a level of concern for human health exposure.**

EPA has also established National Secondary Drinking Water Regulations that set non-mandatory water quality standards for 15 contaminants. EPA does not enforce these "secondary maximum contaminant levels" or "SMCLs." They are established only as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color and odor. These contaminants are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL.

The concentration of iron in your well water was above the secondary maximum contaminant level for iron which is 300 µg/L. Iron is an essential element for human nutrition; however, high iron can cause constipation and other gastrointestinal effects. In addition, high iron may stain household fixtures and impart a metallic taste and red color to the water.

The concentration of manganese in your well water was above the secondary maximum contaminant level of 50 µg/L. High manganese can impart an unpleasant taste and odor to drinking water and can cause mineral deposits on plumbing features. The EPA Health Advisory for manganese is available at this location:

http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccl/pdfs/reg_determine1/support_ccl_magnese_dwreport.pdf

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has established standards for the protection of livestock, specifically to prevent health effects that can occur over the lifetime of the animal. The water sample from your well exceeded the agricultural water quality standards



for aluminum which is 5000 µg/L. If you have livestock or pets that drink water from your well, there is no immediate danger to your livestock or pet's health. However, we encourage you to contact your veterinarian to further discuss the agricultural water quality standards and your sample results if you have livestock or pets that drink water from your well.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommends using the Water Quality Interpretation Tool created by Colorado State University in collaboration with the Colorado Water Institute. This tool has more information regarding the metals examined in your well, and can be found at the following website: <https://erams.com/wqtool/>.

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The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has established standards for the protection of livestock, specifically to prevent health effects that can occur over the lifetime of the animal. The water sample from your well exceeded the agricultural water quality standards



for aluminum of 5000 µg/L and selenium of 20 µg/L. If you have livestock or pets that drink water from your well, there is no immediate danger to your livestock or pet's health. However, we encourage you to contact your veterinarian to further discuss the agricultural water quality standards and your sample results if you have livestock or pets that drink water from your well.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment recommends using the Water Quality Interpretation Tool created by Colorado State University in collaboration with the Colorado Water Institute. This tool has more information regarding the metals examined in your well, and can be found at the following website: <https://erams.com/wqtool/>.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in the collection process, and thank you for your patience while the sample was analyzed. If you have any further questions, please contact Deb McKean at (303) 579-4371.

Sincerely,

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8



September 12, 2015

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Durango, CO 81301

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None of these metals were present in your groundwater above a level of concern. A laboratory results summary table for your water sample is attached to this letter.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation in the collection process, and thank you for your patience while the sample was analyzed. The EPA will work with the Tribe's Water Quality Program to identify any future sampling needs. If you have any further questions, please contact Deb McKean at (303) 579-4371.

Sincerely,

US Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8

CC:

Curtis Hartenstine

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Water Quality Program Manager

970-563-0100 ext. 2217